

FLOKIDA TOPICS

Short Items from
all Sections
of the State

Eighteen million feet of lumber was shipped out of Fernandina during the month of April, valued at \$1,345,657.

Punta Gorda has shipped during the last three weeks six cars of fish, the total weight of which was almost 150 tons.

The farmers of Hastings are shipping from 20 to 40 carloads of Irish potatoes a day from that point. They are also shipping cukes.

The million dollar department store to be erected on the old Saint James lot in Jacksonville by Cohen Bros., will be the largest south of Chicago.

Many people throughout the State have been saying that Broward was politically dead. In the Tuesday primary it was demonstrated that he is a pretty lively political corpse.

The National Society of Colonial Dames of America has decided to offer a medal for 1911 for the best original story based on some tradition or legend of the Florida Indians during colonial times. This contest is open to every high school student in the state.

Pensacola is considerably stirred over the possibility of securing new coastwise steamship service. The fact that the New York-Texas line, which began business about two years ago, might be induced to stop at Pensacola, is greatly interesting the business men of that port.

Mr. Ernest B. Simmons has purchased the Fort Meade Observer and will merge that paper with the Leader, which he has been publishing for some time. A town the size of Fort Meade can ill afford to support two papers, and both town and publisher will be better off by the merger.

Tampa boasts of a negro who is now 118 years of age. His name is Davy Crockett and was a slave of the Gallette family, having been born near the present line between North and South Carolina, in 1792. Capt. John Lesley, of Tampa, has investigated his claim, and finds it correct according to the Gallette family records.

The Fruit and Produce News recently delivered itself of this truism: "You have heard a whole lot of late about Florida's soil. It's here; but the one thing that does the business and doesn't receive the credit that is due it, is—the climate. That's here too, and it stays here all the time—all the year through—and it's the greatest asset that Florida has ever had, or may expect to have."

Expending nearly \$200,000 for a site the Louisville and Nashville railroad has planned to erect one of the finest and most modern union depots in Pensacola that is owned by the company. The purchase of real estate covers all of the south side of Wright street from Alcaniz street to Tenth avenue, a distance of four blocks, the company buying the north half of the entire frontage on Wright street. On this will be erected a depot to cost about \$200,000 or more, the structure, it is claimed, to be of all steel with an immense shed.

When the brilliant comet arose in the eastern skies at 3:30 o'clock Tuesday morning, showing the "tail" more lengthened and more luminous than ever, scores of negroes residing in the immediate vicinity of the railroad shops began such a weeping, wailing and praying that persons in the vicinity at first thought that some relative had been killed by a switch engine, or that some member of some large family had died. The disturbance kept up for more than half an hour and many white people were awakened, in all cases making an investigation to ascertain just what had happened and just who was thought to have died.—Pensacola Journal.

The first spike to be driven on the Key West end of the Florida East Coast railway, was hammered down Tuesday on Trombo island. There was no ceremony in connection with the event, but the driving of the first spike is important nevertheless. The track which is being built is a short stub from the dock to a point on Trombo island, and will be used primarily for the handling of material. Remarkable progress is being made on the extension work at Boca Chica, five of the coffer dams having already been placed and sealed. It is expected that the filling of these coffer dams with concrete will begin in a few days. There will be about ninety arches in the big concrete viaduct, between Boca Chica and Stock island, Excavators No. 2 and No. 6 are working on the stock island end of the grade, and are throwing up dirt at a lively rate. Lumber has been taken to Boca Chica for a commissary building and two sets of men's quarters which will be erected at once.

A large party from Kansas recently bought large tracts of land around Miami for farming purposes.

W. P. Richardson & Co., of Jacksonville will build the Clyde Line terminal docks in that city at a cost of \$500,000.

Hamilton, the expert aviator, is to appear in Jacksonville on May 21 and 22. Hamilton drives a large Curtiss aeroplane.

A movement is on foot to rebuild St. Joseph, a few miles from Apalachicola, which was once a flourishing town but deserted some fifty years ago.

J. J. Porter, a pauper near the county jail in Palatka, killed John Gladden, colored, a trusty who helped look after the paupers, Saturday morning. Gladden was asleep when he was killed.

It is more likely that Ocala will soon have a new industry—a large fertilizer manufacturing plant that will manufacture its own goods, be capitalized at \$150,000 and employ a lot of men the year around and a gang of 125 in the busy season.—Ocala Star.

The Lakeland City Index prints a letter written by Circuit Judge Palmer to Peter O. Knight, practically asking Knight to lobby for a bill beneficial to circuit judges. This such as this that is causing the masses to lose their respect for the judicial branch of our government.

The Florida Railroad Commission has issued an order reducing rates of express on all classes of goods between various points covered by the express companies in the state. The companies may put up a fight, but if they are at all far-seeing and can read the signs of the times, they will submit gracefully.

B. J. Pacetti, warden of Mosquito Inlet reservation, recently found a bronze harpoon imbedded in the body of a large porpoise, which came to shore at the inlet. The fish was eight feet or more in length. Mr. Pacetti says he will be glad to return the harpoon to the owner if he will apply for it.—Daytona Gazette News.

Horace West, a young white man of Jacksonville, is in the county jail at Green Cove Springs charged with attempt to wreck a passenger train on the F. E. C. Railway. West has been put off a train for not having had a ticket. It is said that he became incensed over the matter with the above results. The train was not wrecked.

The Florida orange, the best in the world, is rapidly winning the place to which its merit entitles it in the favor of the consuming public. A recent issue of the Washington Times says the Florida orange is favored in that city above the California product. This fact, it says, amply substantiated by the demands and the higher price of the Florida fruit. Last week the best grade of Floridas went up to \$3.25 a box in Washington. "The Florida orange," says the Times, "is more juicy and more perfectly formed, which qualities, in the judgement of many people, make them superior to the seedless variety from the Pacific coast."

The world's fastest flying machine, man's latest and greatest achievement, a human constructed craft which is heavier than air, but which flies with as much grace and ease as the birds themselves, is in Jacksonville. The Curtiss eight-cylinder biplane, with which Charles K. Hamilton, the American aviator has attracted the attention of the world for his daring feats in this wonderful machine, arrived in Jacksonville and is being transferred to Moncrief race track, where it will be assembled by Mr. Hamilton's mechanics and where the noted American aviator will give his wonderful exhibition next Saturday and Sunday afternoon.

The prosperity of Jacksonville for an hour is told in the following: Daniel Danson, saloon keeper at 428 Bridge street, dead; Police Officer Hezekiah Hiers, dead, Mrs. Colon Danson seriously injured and Police Officer Charles R. Ammons seriously wounded, is the result of one of the deadliest pistol duels ever witnessed in Jacksonville. After the first shot was fired each participant began firing, and there were many shots fired before the smoke had finally cleared, showing the dead body of Danson and the dying and unconscious form of Officer Hiers. Hiers, although he lived for nearly an hour after the shooting, was unconscious after the fatal shot was fired. The fight started when Officer Hiers came to the saloon of Danson, near the corner of Bridge and Church streets at about 2:30 this morning, and found that place running wide open, with the proprietor apparently under the influence of liquor.

WILLIAM J. BRYAN ON PERSONAL LIBERTY

The liquor dealers, recognizing that their very obvious pecuniary interest would lessen the weight of any argument which they might publicly advance are making their fight under cover of organizations purporting to represent those who use liquor. Many well meaning men have been misled into believing that every attempt to lessen the evils of intemperance is a "fanatical attack" on "personal liberty."

What is meant by "personal liberty"? Does it mean that a person has a right to drink in any quantity at any time and in any place no matter what injury he may inflict upon others? If not, with whom rests the right to fix limitations? A drunken man is a menace to the lives and of those about him; have his neighbors no right to protect themselves? A drunkard robs his wife and children and he may finally make his family and himself a charge upon society; has society no right to protect itself? The saloon is next of kin to the brothel and the gambling hall; it is a rendezvous for the criminal element and the willing tool of the corrupt politicians; has not the body politic a right to protect itself from the demoralization which the saloon works? The right to drink does not necessarily include the right to demand the establishment of a saloon. The right to drink is sufficiently protected by any arrangement that permits the reasonable use of liquor under reasonable conditions; and it must be remembered that the right to drink like any other right can be forfeited. Nothing is more sacred than the right to life and yet one may forfeit his right to life if he uses it in such a way as to threaten the life of another. So the man who drinks to excess may forfeit the right to drink; even the moderate drinker may forfeit the right to drink in moderation if not content with reasonable regulations, he insists, that liquor shall be sold under conditions that constitute a menace to the home and the State. The man who desires to drink moderately ought to join with those who seek to reduce the evils of drink to the lowest possible point instead of allying himself with those who ignore the evils of temperance and resist every effort put forth for the protection of society.—From Mr. Bryan's paper, The Commoner.

Saves an Iowa Man's Life

The very grave seemed to yawn before Robert Madsen, of West Burlington, Iowa, when, after seven weeks in the hospital, four of the best physicians gave him up. Then was shown the marvelous curative power of Electric Bitters. For, after eight months of frightful suffering from liver trouble and yellow jaundice, getting no help from other remedies or doctors, five bottles of this matchless medicine completely cured him. Its positively guaranteed for stomach, Liver or Kidney troubles and never disappoints. Only 50c. at St. Lucie Drug Co.

INTERESTING LETTER FROM WINTER VISITOR

A lady who spent the past winter in Fort Pierce and Eldred, writes as follows:

Lookout Lodge, Lake Minnesota, May 10th 1910

Editor St. Lucie Tribune: Please note my change of address which I give you herein. We arrived in Minnesota Wednesday May 4th, on the receding wave of the last cold snap. Things have certainly gone at sixes and sevens in the way of weather, everywhere, except in St. Lucie Co. Twice the leaves on trees and shrubs here have come out nearly full, and twice have they been nipped back. They are making their third attempt and let us hope that in this case it will be "three times and out." Small fruits in the vicinity of Minneapolis are all gone, no currants, cherries, or elder berries; strawberries suffered painfully, and we shall have but half a crop. All of our lovely spring flowers were "nipped in the bud" and we shall have no lilacs, spirea, hyacinths, and no pretty plum and apple blossoms. The foliage looks as though a forest fire had made a quick jump over everything. The weather is cold, and I feel like ruffling up my feathers and saying with the disgraced robin "what the dickens did I come north this time of year?" I hear much talk of the excellence of Florida fruit and its enormous superiority over any fruit that grows, and the question greets me everywhere. "Yes, I know, but how can we get hold of the Indian River fruit?" I can only reply "Own a railroad." To those who have the Okechobee bug I simply say—stay out of that game. Better buy land near Fort Pierce and then you know you are getting something worth while.

We are established in our beautiful Lake Minnetauha home, for the summer; but that does not prevent my thoughts from turning "Back to Dixie," with no little longing. Until Nov. 1st then send my paper which I would not go without, to.

ANNA M. CHAMBERLAIN.

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